IN THE CLAIMS

The status of each claim in the present application is listed below.

Claims 1-52: (Canceled).

- 53. (New) Isolated and purified pili obtained from *Mycohacterium tuherculosis*, wherein the pili:
- (a) comprise pilin monomers, wherein the pilin monomers comprise proteins having a molecular weight of 14-25 kDa,
- (b) are in the form of aggregated fibers, wherein the fibers have a width of about 2 to 7 nm and a length of at least 5 nm, and
 - (c) are immunogenic.

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- 54. (New) The pili of Claim 53, which have been separated from said *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* by mechanical shearing, differential centrifugation or isopycnic separation.
 - 55. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the fibers have a length of at least 10 nm.
 - 56. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO:
 - 57. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO:

- 58. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO: 3.
- 59. (New) The pili of Claim 53, wherein the pilin monomers comprise SEQ ID NO:5.
- 60. (New, Withdrawn) A method of producing the pili of Claim 53, comprising subjecting cells of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* which produce the pili to mechanical shearing, differential centrifugation or isopycnic separation and then isolating the pili from the cells.
- 61. (New) A method of detecting a *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* infection in a subject, comprising contacting a body fluid from the subject with the pili of Claim 53 and assaying for the presence of an antibody to the pili.
 - 62. (New) The method of Claim 61, wherein the subject is a human.
 - 63. (New) The method of Claim 61, wherein the body fluid is serum.
- 64. (New) A method of inducing an immune response against *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, comprising administering an effective amount of the pili of Claim 53 to a subject in need thereof.
 - 65. (New) The method of Claim 61, wherein the subject is a human.

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- 66. (New) An isolated and purified pilin protein monomer having a molecular weight of 14-25 kDa and comprising SEQ ID NO: 1, 2, 3 or 5.
 - 67. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 1.
 - 68. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 2.
 - 69. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 3.
 - 70. (New) The pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, which comprises SEQ ID NO: 5.
- 71. (New) A method of producing the pilin protein monomer of Claim 66, comprising transforming a bacterial host cell with a nucleic acid which encodes said SEQ ID NO: and isolating the pilin protein monomer.